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Washington, D.C. – Rep. Charlie Wilson (OH-6) today backed the Energy Independence and Security Act, landmark energy legislation that will make America more energy independent, cut energy costs for families, grow our economy and reduce global warming. The historic legislation was passed by a vote of 314-100 and will be sent to the President, who is expected to sign the bill into law tomorrow.

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“Energy is a huge challenge in this country and consumers in the Ohio River Valley are paying the price,” Wilson said. “I’m so proud that the New Direction Congress has passed key energy reforms and reversed a sad legacy of inaction by Congress.”

The Energy Independence and Security Act will increase vehicle fuel efficiency to 35 miles per gallon in 2020—the first congressional increase in 32 years – and slash U.S. oil consumption by more than 4 million barrels per day by 2030. Increased vehicle fuel efficiency will save American families \$700 to \$1,000 a year at the pump.

The legislation also expands the use of American-grown biofuels to 36 billion gallons in 2022 and increases the efficiency of buildings, homes, appliances, and lighting. Building, appliance, and lighting efficiency will save consumers \$400 billion through 2030. Moreover, the development of biofuels and support for cutting-edge energy research will create hundreds of thousands of new jobs.

In addition to the clear economic benefits, by 2030 the legislation in total cuts greenhouse gas emissions by up to 24 percent of what the U.S. needs to do to help save the planet.

“This legislation is a triple win: it will help the family bottom line, it will help create jobs and it will help the planet,” Wilson said.

The bill is backed by a broad coalition of individuals and organizations from the labor, faith, business and environmental communities.

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